THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Several companies have been registered for carrying on the business of plantations and other agroforestry operations. These companies have advertised certain schemes offering ownership of fully grown trees at the end of investment period of 15 to 20 years. The MRTP Commission, on the basis of the several applications and preliminary investigation reports submited by the Director General of Invetigation, has instituted enquiries against the following companies for the alleged unfair trade practices :—

(i) M/s Sanghi Plantations Ltd.

(ii) M/s Greenland Developers Pvt. Ltd.

(iii) M/s Natural Agro Farms Pvt. Ltd.

(iv) M/s Grindley Forestry Ltd.

(v) M/s Sterling Tree Magnum (India) Ltd.

(vi) M/s Anubhav Plantations Ltd.

MRTP Commission

2038. SHRI ANANT RAM JAISWAL : SHRIMATI SATYA BAHIN :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether produce profitability or group profitability is relevant to decide profiteering for the purpose of MRTP Commission ;

(b) how goods have been defined in the MRTP and what is the relevance of old classification of goods which was drawn for the purpose of determining dominance ;

(c) what is the ceiling of profit on net worth or capital employed or on sales turn-over beyond which profiteering applies; and

(d) whether it is a fact that no guidelines or ground rules have been developed by the commission for the purpose ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ) : (a) The terms 'product profitability' or 'group profitability' as such have not been defined in the M.R.T.P. Act, 1969. However, section 2 (i) (V) of the Act provides that a trade practice which has, or is likely to have, the effect of increasing unreasonably the profits which are, or may be, derived by the production, supply or distribution (including the sale or purchase) of any goods or by the provision of any service would mean a monopolistic trade practice.

(b) The goods for the purpose of M.R.T.P. Act means goods as defined in the, Sale of Goods Act, 1930 and includes :—

(i) products manufactured, processed or mind in India;

(ii) shares and stocks including issue of shares before allotment ;

(iii) in relation to goods supplied, distributed or controlled in india, goods imported into India ;

The M.R.T.P. (Classification of Goods) Rules, 1971 are relevant for the purpose of chapter III of M.R.T.P. Act, 1969.

(c) No such ceiling has been prescribed in the M.R.T.P. Act.

(d) Yes, Sir.

Violation of election code during state Assembly elections

2039. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA : Will the PPRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) what is the number of cases of violation of election code which came to the notice of Election Commission during State Assembly elections held last month, State-wise ;

(b) the nature of cases of violations ;

(c) the details of repolls conducted ; and

(d) the action taken on the spot and afterwards ?